era; in the total number of species of Agonum and Pterostichus; and in the number of species groups of Agonum and Pterostichus. On the other hand, the agonines, as a group, are predominantly hygrophilous, though not completely so, and the pterostichines as a group are predominantly mesophilous, though not completely so. Further to the south, the agonines are predominant in all habitats, and the pterostichines are scarce or absent. The species groups of Pterostichus are clearly defined, while those of Agonum are not so clearly defined. More groups of Pterostichus are represented on the tundra by more species than are the groups of Agonum. All of this seems to support Darlington's view that the agonines are a younger, expanding group, dominant in the tropics, while the pterostichines are an older lineage, giving way before the advance of the agonines, and in the process of becoming climate-limited. The point I want to make here is that it is now possible to undertake a zoogeographical analysis of the Nearctic species of this group of insects, something that could not be done previously because the species involved were so poorly understood.

This volume is an important part of a taxonomic masterpiece. As such, it can be studied with profit by anyone interested in publishing first-class taxonomic literature. For those interested especially in Carabidae, this work provides a firm foundation for revisions of all of the Nearctic species of the included groups. This publication is based upon a detailed knowledge of the Holarctic Carabidae and of the literature dealing with this group, and this information is presented clearly and simply. -- GEORGE E. BALL, Department of Entomology, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

NEWS

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SYSTEMATIC BIOLOGY was held at the University of Michigan, June 14-16; supported by the National Science Foundation, the feature speaker was Dr. Ernst Mayr: "The role of Systematics in Biology." The following Coleopterists were known to have attended the meeting as a part of the 450 registered: R. T. Allen (Carabidae, Loxandrus); R. H. Arnett, Jr. (Oedemeridae); E. C. Becker (Elateridae); R. E. Blackwelder (Staphylinidae); J. Bouseman (Rhipiphoridae); W. J. Brown (Chrysomelidae); L. P. Gibson (Curculionidae, Curculio); R. C. Graves (Carabidae and Cicindelidae); L. H. Herman, Jr. (Staphylinidae, Oxytelinae); T. F. Hlavac (Carabidae, Clivina); A. T. Howden (Curculionidae); H. F. Howden (Scarabaeidae); J. B. Karren (Chrysomelidae, Chlamisus); J. F. Lawrence (Ciidae); J. E. Lloyd (Lampyridae); R. B. Selander (Meloidae); P. J. Spangler (Hydrophilidae, Dytiscidae); W. R. Suter (Scymaenidae); J. Wagner (Pselaphidae); R. E. Woodruff (Scarabaeidae).

MELVILLE H. HATCH, Burke Museum, University of Washington reports that he is working on the last part, Part V, of the BEETLES OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST.

A second printing, slightly revised, of THE BEETLES OF THE UNITED STATES, by R. H. Arnett, is being prepared for the printer and will be published soon.

D. G. KISSINGER, Department of Biology, Atlantic Union College, South Lancaster, Mass. has received NSF support to continue and finish research on Apion of North America. When finished this will be published as a 500 page vol-